

HERITAGE AND DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

Introduction

- 1.1 This Heritage and Design Statement has been prepared as a supporting document for an application for both a Listed Building Consent application for internal and external works and a full planning permission and Listed Building Consent for a new security system for 46-47 Russell Square, London.
- 1.2 The site comprises of two properties which are Grade II Listed Buildings, located within the Bloomsbury Conservation Area.

Heritage Context and Significance

- 1.1 46-47 Russell Square forms part of a terrace of 6 Grade II Listed Buildings that were built in early 18th Century. The buildings were listed on 28 March 1969 as part of a wider listing that includes 44-49 Russell Square and attached railings. A copy of the full listed building description is reproduced in **Appendix 1**.
- 1.2 The site is located within the boundary of the Bloomsbury Conservation Area which was originally designated in 1968, although the area now includes significant extensions to the initial designation.
- 1.3 The Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Strategy was adopted in April 2011. The site is situated within Sub Area 6: Bloomsbury Square/Russell Square/Tavistock Square. The appraisal refers to the series of townhouses originally built by James Burton, with the surviving terraces including the application site on the southern side of the square. These townhouses in 1898 were partly refaced in terracotta.
- 1.4 The Sub Area 6 map defines the site as a listed building, within the wider listing for the buildings south of the square not including 50-51 Russell Square.

Impact on Designated Heritage Asset

- 1.5 This section identifies the impact the proposal has on the character and appearance of the Conservation Area, as well as the fabric and special interest of the listed building.
- 1.6 The proposals include internal alterations to both 46 and 47 Russell Square. The interiors of the buildings were not inspected as part of the listed building description.
- 1.7 The internal works will facilitate the educational use of the building for the current tenant. The alterations will meet their requirements without comprising the integrity and features of special interest of the listed building status.
- 1.8 The ground and first floors particularly feature historic characteristics and these have been respected in the proposals with no works impacting these special interests.
- 1.9 The basement proposal includes the fitting of double doors into an existing opening. The ground floor proposals incorporate the removal of two stud partitions, with one reinstating an original opening into the stairwell. The

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historic cornice will be retained above this opening with doors to match the neighbouring opening.

- 1.10 The first floor proposals incorporate the removal of a stud partition and bottom of a bulkhead with the inclusion of cabinet doors. The second floor works involving the removal of a stud partition to create a door opening and the addition of a sliding folding partition. It is considered that these works do not impact the historic significance of the building.
- 1.11 The internal works are considered minor and would not harm the historic character of the building.
- 1.12 The proposals are partially retrospective in regards to the timber floor overlay. The overlay has been replaced the carpet underlay, but the original flooring has been retained beneath the timber floor.
- 1.13 The external works proposed include the replacement steps and landing tiles for the entrance of 46 Russell Square to match those of number 47.
- 1.14 Currently the existing railings located on both sides of the steps are a subsidiary feature identified in the listing description as mid C19 cast-iron railings.
- 1.15 The installation of the tiles to the entrance will be undertaken to not harm the front façade or the rails with the railings to be left in situ. Whilst the appearance of these tiles and replacement steps will alter the material appearance of the building, it will not have a detrimental impact and will complement the existing entrance to number 47.
- 1.16 The retrospective application for the proposed security system including the CCTV cameras has been positioned to minimise the impact on the front elevation, with one of the external cameras replacing the existing camera. The external cameras will be domed and attached by a wall mounted bracket with screw fixings. The elevations of the external cameras and internal locations are set out in the accompanying plans.

Design and Materials

- 1.17 The materials chosen for proposal have been considered in their suitability of relating to the existing building fabric. The door fitting details where possible have been designed to match the existing doors in neighbouring entrances.
- 1.18 The sliding folding partition on the second floor will fit below the existing downstand floor supported bottom roller system with a laminate finish and painted. Further details are set out in the accompanying plans.
- 1.19 The engineered timber overlay consists of 15mm T&G timber planks 190x1900mm replacing the sheet carpet underlay. The proposed tiled entrance and replacement steps to number 46 have been designed to provide a similar entrance to 47 Russell Square. This will comprise of 90mm x 90mm small black and white tiles and 150mm large black tiles.

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- 1.20 The dimensions for the CCTV system and wall mounted bracket externally are 184mm x 120mm. The measurements are confirmed on the proposed front elevation (drawing ref: APL.28).
- 1.21 The scale of the proposals is considered to be in keeping with the scale of the existing building, thus having minimal impact on the listed building.

Summary and Conclusions

- 1.17 This supporting heritage and design and access statement has been prepared as part of a listed building consent application for the internal and external alterations, and a full planning and listed building consent application for the installation and replacement of CCTV cameras and proposed security system to 46-47 Russell Square.
- 1.18 The design and materials used will not detract from the historic features, with the materials proposed complementing the existing fabric of the building. New materials have been specifically selected in consideration to the listed building status.
- 1.19 It is considered that the proposals are minor in nature and have been designed to not cause harm to the Grade II listed building or the character of the Conservation Area within which it is located.

Appendix 1

CAMDEN

TQ3081NW RUSSELL SQUARE 798-1/100/1420 (South side) 28/03/69
Nos.44-49 (Consecutive) and attached railings

GV II

Terrace of 6 houses, formerly a symmetrical terrace similar to Nos 52-60 (qv); with one surviving, projecting end bay (No.44) and central bays (Nos 47-49). c1800-03. By James Burton, altered c1898 by PE Pilditch. Multi-coloured stock brick with rusticated stucco ground floors and slated mansard roofs with dormers. Later terracotta dressings. EXTERIOR: 3 storeys, attics and dormers. Projecting bays 4 storeys. 3 windows each, No.44 with return of 4 blind windows to Montague Street. Round-arched doorways with pilaster-jambes, cornice-heads, fanlights, sidelights and double panelled doors; Nos 44, 47 and 48 with square-headed terracotta surrounds. Recessed, architraved casement and sash windows. 1st floor with cornices and central windows with pediments; Nos 47-49 central windows 3-light canted bays. Continuous cast-iron balconies to 1st floor windows. Projecting bays with 3rd floor cornice and enriched frieze below. Parapets. Dormers with terracotta cornices; projecting bays with alternating triangular and semicircular pediments, Nos 45 and 46 with semicircular pediments to centre dormers only. INTERIORS: not inspected. SUBSIDIARY FEATURES: attached

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mid C19 cast-iron railings to areas. HISTORICAL NOTE: the Duke of Bedford was inspired to add terracotta dressings to these houses following the building of The Russell Hotel (qv).